

REIKO SHIMIZU

秘密

JETS COMICS



JETS  
COMICS

秘密

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JIC 4837  
白泉社



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ISBN978-4-592-14537-0

C9979 ¥848E

定価 本体848円+税

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THE TOP SECRET  
REIKO SHIMIZU

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REIKO SHIMIZU

# 秘 7 密

トランプ・シークレット



THE NO. 1

REIKO SHIMIZU

秘

トップ・シークレット

7

密



THE TOP SECRET

清水玲子

白泉社

REIKO SHIMIZU

秘.....密  
2009

THE TOP SECRET

秘.....密

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秘密.....2009

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秘 2009 密

THE TOP SECRET

R E I K O S H I M I Z U  
T H E T O P S E C R E T



THEN WHERE  
IS MY REAL  
DAUGHTER?!

WHERE  
IS SAKI  
NOW?

IF THAT'S  
A BODY  
DOUBLE AS  
YOU SAY,



FROM HER WIFE  
IMAGES, WE KNOW  
THAT HE WAS THE ONE  
WHO SUGGESTED THE  
PLAN TO KIDNAP  
SAKI-SUN.

THIS IS  
ANAJI  
MAITO, 66  
YEARS OLD,  
AND THE  
FORMER  
HUSBAND  
OF YOSHIO  
SHIRAI.

...NO...

THIS, HE IS THE  
MAIN CULPRIT AND  
THE MASTERMIND  
OF SAKI-SUN'S  
ABDUCTION CASE.  
DO YOU REMEMBER  
MEETING THIS MAN  
RECENTLY?



I TELL YOU I  
DON'T KNOW  
HIM! YOU  
BUNCH JUST  
CATCH HIM  
QUICKLY!

HE TOO, WAS A  
BEREAVED FAMILY  
FROM THE "SELMA  
MASS ABDUCTION  
CASE". YOU MUST  
HAVE MET HIM  
NUMERAL TIMES  
DURING THAT TIME.

NO, I  
DON'T.

I  
DON'T  
KNOW  
THAT  
MANY

HE'S CURRENTLY  
ADMITTED TO A  
HOSPICE IN ZUEL,  
AND HE'S BEING  
TREATED FOR HIS  
TERMINAL CANCER.



AS WE SPEAK,  
INVESTIGATION OFFICERS  
ARE HEADING TO THE  
LOCATION. AS SOON AS  
THEY CONFIRM ANAKIS  
IDENTITY, THEY'LL  
CONTACT US HERE.



IT'S AN  
EXCEPTIONAL  
ADMITTANCE  
WITHOUT A  
WARRANT.





AND FOR  
SENDAI  
SAMI TOO.



THANK  
YOU.

THIS WING-  
SECTION CHIEF  
IS SEEING  
HIM NOW.

PLEASE  
...

IT TAKES  
GAYS OF  
YOUR HOURS.

I HAVE TO SEE  
THE MINISTER  
URGENTLY.  
IT'S ABOUT HIS  
DAUGHTER'S  
CASE...

SECRETARY!

YES!

SOLVE  
THIS  
CASE THE  
SOONEST  
YOU CAN!



Three full days  
have passed  
since the girl  
was closed  
in the  
container

AWAII...



It won't last  
anyone even  
two weeks

Maybe ten  
days

The date  
changed to  
10th April  
just an  
hour ago

YES,  
BECAUSE OF  
HIS CONDITION,  
THE QUESTIONING  
IS TAKING PLACE IN  
HIS HORROR  
ROOM.

CONFIRMING  
SAKO-GANG  
WHEREABOUTS  
AND SAFETY IS  
OUR MAIN  
FOCUS.

THE MAIN  
CULPRIT WAS  
APPREHENDED...  
THEN... THAT  
MAN KNOWS  
SAKO'S  
LOCATION.?

HE KNOWS  
EVERYTHING,  
RIGHT?

IT'S A  
MATTER  
OF TIME,  
MINISTER  
SENDOU.

THEN  
...

TO SAFELY  
RESCUE  
THE GIRL,  
WE NEED  
TO GET NOT  
JUST YOUR  
PERMISSION.

SO, REGARDING  
THE ON-BOARD  
INVESTIGATION BY  
THE JAPAN  
COAST GUARD,

ALL...  
IS THAT  
GO...

RIGHT...  
SINCE WE'VE  
CAPTURED  
THE  
SUSPECT...

PRIME MINISTER'S AND MINISTER OF LAND  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE'S UNDERSTANDING  
AND APPROVAL IS NECESSARY TO GET  
FULL SUPPORT.









The information about a Japanese Girl inside one of the containers was mistaken. The rescue operation on container ship 'Altair' is therefore discontinued.

I repeat,

Do you confirm, Minister Sendou?

MINISTER

GET OFF!

MON-STERY!

CONTINUE SEARCHING...

MAKI-SAN!

THERE IS A PERSON INSIDE A CONTAINER!





THAT'S  
ALL!



ALL ACTIONS  
TOWARDS ALFAIR  
INVESTIGATION  
ARE TO BE HALTED  
IMMEDIATELY.  
PROMPTLY AND  
SMOOTHLY RETREAT.  
PASS ON THE  
COMMAND TO THE  
JAPAN COAST  
GUARD CREEP.



Retreat!



**HELP!**

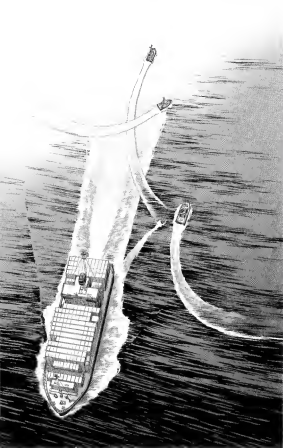
**ANYONE  
!**

**LET  
ME  
OUT,  
LET  
OUT!**

**HELP  
ME!**

**SHIT**









YOU'RE  
GOING TO  
ABANDON  
HER?



AND  
ANYWAY,



AND WHAT IS  
THE CHANCE  
THAT SHE'S  
BEEN DEAD  
FROM THE  
START?

NOW THERE  
IS STILL A  
CHANCE SHE'S  
ALIVE, BUT BY  
THEN...



THERE IS ONE  
WEEK LEFT UNTIL  
ALTAR RETURNS  
ON SCHEDULE TO  
BRUSSELS.



MRI IMAGES CAN  
CONTAIN THE PERSON'S  
IMAGINATIONS AND  
ILLUSIONS, RIGHT?  
SO IT'S NO PROOF OF  
ANYTHING, HNT THAT  
RIGHT?

ISN'T THERE A  
CHANCE THAT  
THE PICTURE  
WITH HER IN  
THE CONTAINER  
WAS FAKE  
ITSELF?



COME BACK  
WHEN YOU  
GATHER  
THOSE!

A RECORDING  
FROM A SECURITY  
CAMERA WITH HER  
LOOKED IN THE  
CONTAINER,  
A SIGN THAT  
SHE'S STILL  
ALIVE INSIDE IT,  
AND A TESTIMONY  
FROM A RELATIVE  
TO CONFIRM HER  
IDENTITY!

IF YOU STILL  
WANT TO  
RESCUE  
THAT GIRL,  
GIVE ME  
SOME  
PHYSICAL  
PROOF APART  
FROM THE  
MRI IMAGE!



UNTIL THEN  
MY HANDS  
ARE TIED!



UNTIL  
NOW AND  
INTO THE  
FUTURE,

THIS IS  
THE  
REASON  
THIS  
COUNTRY  
STAYS AT  
PEACE!!

BUT I'M NOT  
INTERFERING  
WITH DIPLO-  
MATICALLY  
UNSTABLE  
EMBLEDGED WITH  
NOTHING BUT  
WRE TO BACK  
ME UP,

I WOULD  
REALLY  
WANT TO  
HELP YOU!

YOU MAY  
THINK IT  
HEARTLESS  
OR WEAK,

ABSOLUTELY!

AND RISK THE COUNTRY'S  
GENERAL SAFETY EVEN  
A BIT TO RESCUE  
JUST ONE PERSON,  
GOD KNOWS WHO AND  
WHERE FROM!

BUT IT'S  
THIS WAY  
THAT WE'VE  
CAME OVER  
100 YEARS  
WITHOUT  
ANY WAR.

WE  
CAN'T  
JUST GET  
EMOTIONAL,





*TO  
THAT  
MAN  
ONLY*

...

PEOPLE'S  
LIVES...

MAKI-  
SAN

TRY  
SAYING  
IT AGAIN,  
YOU  
PIECE  
OF...!

WHAT?!

IF YOU HAVE  
NO CONFIDENCE  
IN AVOIDING  
A SPARK OF  
CONFLICT  
STEMMING AS  
A RESULT,

TO PROTECT  
HUMAN LIFE  
IS SUCH AN  
OBVIOUS ACT  
AS A FELLOW  
HUMAN.



IF YOU'RE SO  
SELF-AWARE OF  
YOUR LACK OF  
DIPLOMATIC  
ABILITIES...



...THEN I HUMBL  
Y BELIEVE YOU  
SHOULD RESIGN  
FROM YOUR  
POSITION AS  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
MINISTER.







GIVEN  
TWO HOURS,  
WE CAN TAKE  
MEASURES AND  
PREPARE A PLACE.  
WOULD YOU LIKE  
TO OFFER YOUR  
TIME?

THE APPREHENDED  
AWAJI SAYS HE  
WILL ONLY SPEAK  
TO YOU MINISTER,  
DIRECTLY, AND  
REMAINING SILENT  
OTHERWISE.





WHY DO  
YOU THINK  
THE CRIMINAL  
PURPOSEFULLY  
USED A BODY  
DOUBLE OF YOUR  
DAUGHTER, AND  
MADE HER LOOK  
EXACTLY LIKE  
SAKI?



SAKI-  
SAMI

DON'T  
FOLLOW  
ME.

GO BACK  
EARLIER.

WHERE  
ARE  
YOU...  
THE  
ELEVATOR  
IS RIGHT  
THIS  
WAY...





MAKI-SAN!

MAKI-SAN!



MAKI-SAN!



WAIT!







Why?



三下三下三下

Whatever it'd be...





If that was  
my child.

WHY DOES THE  
COAST GUARD  
SUSPECT IT'S  
TO INVESTIGATE  
THE COLLIER  
COMMOTED ON THE  
SEA AND SAVING  
PEOPLE'S LIVES,  
IS IT NOT?

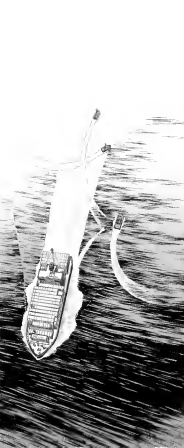
Requesting  
permit to issue  
a warning shot.

Whatever, I have to  
sacrifice...

Even if it was my  
political life, even if I  
had to throw  
everything away and  
even if I were to turn  
whole world into  
an enemy...  
I'd rescue her.

If that...





*Help me!*



*Help me!  
Help me!*



*Hel...*















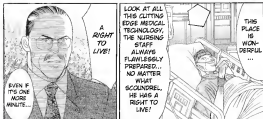






AND EVERYTHING  
ONLY I KNEW  
WOULD BE  
EXPOSED...  
THE LOCATION OF  
YOUR DAUGHTER,  
HOW TO GET  
THERE...  
SHE'D BE RESCUED,  
AND EVERYTHING  
WOULD GO  
TO WASTE...

IF I DIED  
OR SOMETHING  
BEFORE YOU  
CAME HERE,  
MY BRAIN WOULD  
BE TAKEN TO  
MRI IN AN  
INSTANT,



EVEN IF  
IT'S ONE  
MORE  
MINUTE...

A  
RIGHT  
TO  
LIVE!

LOOK AT ALL  
THIS CUTTING  
EDGE MEDICAL  
TECHNOLOGY,  
THE NURSING  
STAFF  
ALWAYS  
FLAWLESSLY  
PREPARED...  
NO MATTER  
WHAT  
SCOUNDREL,  
HE HAS A  
RIGHT TO  
LIVE!

THIS  
PLACE  
IS  
WON-  
DERFUL  
...



AND  
LIVE  
LONG!

...EVEN IF  
IT'S ONE MORE  
SECOND...  
I'M GOING TO  
EXERCISE THIS  
MOST BASIC  
HUMAN RIGHT,



THIS  
IS MY  
REVENGE!



NO  
MATTER  
WHAT.



SO LONG AS I LIVE,  
YOU CAN'T WATCH  
MY BRAIN - AND  
KNOW YOUR  
DAUGHTER'S  
LOCATION.

YOU  
!!!



HEY!



YOU  
BASTARD  
!!

**STOP  
RIGHT  
NOW!  
SOMEONE  
TAKE  
MINISTER  
OUTSIDE!**

**MINISTER  
!!**

**MINISTER  
!!**

**SHUT UP,  
AWAJII!**

**WHAT  
DO YOU  
THINK?  
MY  
DEATH,**

**AFTER SHE  
USES UP  
ALL THE  
FOOD AND  
WATER...**

**AND YOUR  
DAUGHTER'S  
DEATH OF  
STARVATION,**

**WHICH DO YOU  
THINK WILL COME  
SOONER?**



**IT'S A  
CONTEST!  
A RACE!**

**AWAJII!**

—私有地につき—  
**立入禁止**

TIN. PRIV. TO PROPERTY - KEEP OUT









...  
WHAT



IF THOSE  
ABOVE  
DON'T ACT,  
I'LL GO AND  
SAVE HER.



DO YOU EVEN  
KNOW WHAT  
YOU'RE TALKING  
ABOUT AT ALL?!

WHAT ARE YOU  
TALKING ABOUT...



NO MAT-  
TER,

IT MAY BE AN  
UNARMED CARGO  
SHIP, BUT THEY  
MUST SURELY  
HAVE SOME  
SMALL ARMS  
AGAINST PIRATES  
AT LEAST!

THAT'S WHY  
WHY? I CERTAINLY  
DON'T JUST  
THOUGHT-  
LESSLY DECIDE  
TO GO RESCUE  
HER MYSELF!

I ONLY KNOW  
THAT THERE IS A  
GIRL INSIDE A  
CONTAINER AND  
IF SHE'S NOT  
RESCUED SOON,  
SHE'LL DIE IN  
THERE. YOU KNOW  
THAT TOO...  
THAT'S WHY YOU...



NO MATTER HOW MUCH  
YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT  
THE GIRL, AND HOW MUCH  
YOUR CONSCIENCE HURTS,  
YOU MUST BE THE ONLY  
MAN IN JAPAN STUPID  
ENOUGH TO ACTUALLY FLY  
A HELICOPTER AND GO  
SAVE HER YOURSELF,  
RISKING YOUR LIFE FOR  
THAT!

DID YOU THINK  
I'D AUTHORIZE  
THAT? IDIOT!



NO,  
NO...  
I'M  
SORRY!

DOES THIS  
SOUND LIKE  
A PRAISE?!



DID YOU  
JUST...  
PRAISE  
ME...?



YOU  
PROPOSED  
TO YUKIKO,  
RIGHT?



ARE YOU  
FINE WITH  
THAT?



IT  
WOULDN'T  
END UP  
WITH A PAY  
CUT OR AN  
ADMONITION.  
YOU'LL GET  
FIRED!





MAKI-SAN...  
YOU SAID IT TO THE  
MINISTER YOURSELF,  
RIGHT?



EVEN THAT  
MINISTER WAS  
READY TO ABANDON  
HIS POLITICAL  
CAREER TO RESCUE  
THE GIRL...

IF IT WAS  
HIS  
DAUGHTER.

THINKING  
LIKE  
THAT...



"WHY DO  
YOU THINK  
THE CRIMINAL  
PURPOSEFULLY  
USED A BODY  
DOUBLE  
OF YOUR  
DAUGHTER,  
AND MADE  
HER LOOK  
EXACTLY LIKE  
GAK-SAN?"



IF IT  
WAS YOU...



THE ONE  
LOOKED UP IS  
NOT 'JUST ONE  
PERSON GOD  
KNOWS WHERE'.



SOMEONE'S  
'WAGI-SAN',

IT'S  
SOMEONE'S  
'DOCTOR  
MIYOSHI',



SOMEONE'S  
PRECIOUS  
'DAUGHTER'.



PLEASE  
PRETEND  
THIS TALK  
DIDN'T  
HAPPEN.

OF  
COURSE  
I DON'T  
EXPECT  
AUTHO-  
RIZATION.



Why can't you distinguish  
people this way?  
Will you always feel  
another person's pain as  
if it were your own?

Why can't you cast away  
other peoples' matters and  
protect your own life first?



Like that  
cowardly  
Minister,  
like all the  
unrelated  
regular people,  
like me who  
only laments...



*Always*

*Always*



*Always*



**DOCTOR!**



**DECOY  
OPERATION!**





**I WANT TO  
CATCH HIM  
WHATEVER  
IT TAKES!  
PLEASE  
LET ME DO  
THIS!**



Like him,  
who died  
protecting  
me...

You can't  
live like  
that.  
If you do,  
one day  
just like  
him...

Aoki  
Aoki!





'Maki'



**SUZUKI!**







WHY....

.....



**I'M NOT  
LISTEN-  
ING TO  
YOUR  
WORTH-  
LESS  
PLAN!**



**WHY DID  
I...  
ALMOST  
...**

**FUCK  
...**

DON'T YOU  
USE YOUR  
HEAD EVEN  
FOR A  
MOMENT!  
YOU  
WILL MOVE  
ACCORDING  
TO WHAT I  
TELL YOU!

IF YOU  
REALLY  
WANT TO  
SAVE THIS  
GIRL YOU  
WILL DO AS  
I SAY!

NAKI

...

I'M  
GIVING  
ALL THE  
ORDERS!

UNDER-  
STOOD?

PREPARE  
THE  
MPD'S  
LONG  
RANGE  
HELI-  
COPTER.

NAKI-  
SAN...!



FROM  
THERE I'LL  
BE ISSUING  
FURTHER  
ORDERS, SO I  
MUST BE ABLE  
TO CONTACT  
YOU ANYTIME.  
I'M...

WITH THAT  
YOU'LL GET TO  
THE OKINAWAN  
PREFECTURAL  
POLICE, I'LL  
REQUEST THEIR  
COOPERATION.  
I'M ALSO  
APPOINTING A  
GUARD TO YOU  
SO WORK  
TOGETHER.



I'M NOT  
LETTING ANY  
DEAD OUT FROM  
"THE NINTH"  
EVER AGAIN.



AND YOU'LL  
GET AN  
ADMONITION  
AND A  
PAY CUT  
WITHOUT  
EXCEPTION!



INSPECTOR  
GENERAL?  
IT'S MAKI.  
I'M SORRY TO  
BOther YOU AT  
THIS HOUR, BUT  
I'D LIKE TO  
CONSULT ON  
SENDOU SAKI  
ABDUCTION  
CASE...



ONE HELICOPTER  
FROM MPD'S  
FLYING CORPS.

...YES, THIS IS  
URGENT.

...YES,  
I'LL  
EXPLAIN  
SHORTLY.

YES.

...THANK  
YOU VERY  
MUCH.

YES.



WHY ARE YOU DAWD-LING AROUND ?





MAKI-  
SAN...

MAKI-  
SAN!

Maki-san walked  
away swiftly,  
without looking  
back...

...So I  
decided  
to tell  
him after  
I come  
back.

MA

...

*Tell him  
what?*



*About this  
feeling now...*





*How can  
I even  
express  
that?*



*I'll think  
about it  
after I  
return.*

After I  
come back  
safely to  
'The Ninth'.







IN THE  
DNA TEST,  
THERE WAS 99%  
CERTAINTY THAT  
YOUR WIFE IS  
THE MOTHER.

THIS IS  
SAKI-SAN'S HAIR.  
IT WAS PULLED  
OUT FORCIBLY  
UNDER TWO  
WEEKS AGO.



APART  
FROM THESE,  
NO MORE  
SUBSTANTIAL  
EVIDENCE  
WAS FOUND.

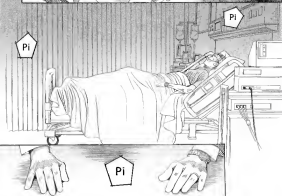
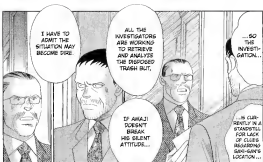
INSIDE AWAJI'S FLAT WE  
FOUND LONG HAIR OF ONE  
MORE PERSON. IT DIDN'T  
MATCH... IT MOST LIKELY  
BELONGS TO THE BODY  
DOUBLE GIRL LOCKED IN  
THE CONTAINER.

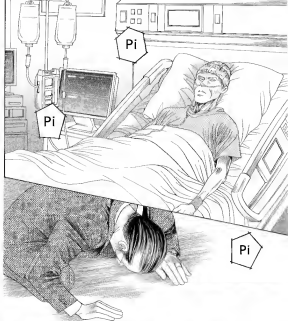


HE ONLY  
PURPOSEFULLY  
LEFT THESE  
PIECES OF HAIR  
INSIDE, AS A  
PROOF THAT HE  
HAD KIDNAPPED  
SAKI-SAN.



A WEEK AGO,  
JUST BEFORE  
ADMITTING TO  
THE HORRICE  
HE ASKED A  
PROFESSIONAL  
TO DISPOSE OF  
ALL OF HIS  
BELONGINGS.  
HE EVEN HIRED  
A CLEANING  
CREW, NOT A  
DUST WAS  
LEFT.







AND YET  
I FAILED TO  
SYMPATHIZE WITH  
THE FEELINGS OF  
DEERED  
FAMILIES.

WHEN I WAS  
POSTED AS THE  
MIDDLE-EAST  
AFRICA BUREAU  
CHIEF, I WAS  
SUPPOSED TO  
PROTECT THE  
LIVES AND SAFETY  
OF FELLOW  
COUNTRYMEN.

Pi

TWENTY  
YEARS  
AGO,

Pi

IN THE END,  
WE WERE UNABLE  
TO RESCUE YOUR  
DAUGHTER,  
MIZUKI-SAN.

Don't  
sardonize  
her,  
Chief!

Are you  
making a  
joke out of  
her last  
belongings?

She's still alive!  
Why are you  
ignoring signed  
testimonies from  
the witnesses?  
Please, continue  
the investigation!



I'VE DONE AN  
UNFORGIVABLE  
ATROCITY THAT  
CANNOT BE  
UNDONE...

TO BOTH  
MIZUKI-SAN  
AND YOU,  
HER  
FAMILY.







**NOT  
SAKI'S.**

**MINE!**

**Dad!**

**NOT MY  
GIRL'S!**



**THE  
CHILD IS  
UNRELATED  
TO THIS!**



**I'LL DO  
ANYTHING  
IF YOU  
RETURN  
SAKI!**



PLEASE  
TELL  
ME THE  
LOCATION  
OF MY  
DAUGHTER.



SAKI'S  
...

PLEASE,  
I BEG  
YOU!



AWA-JI-  
SAN...!



8 YEARS  
AFTER THE  
"DELNA MASS  
ABDUCTION  
CASE", ON THE  
OUTSKIRTS OF  
DELNA, BONES  
OF SEVERAL  
PEOPLE WERE  
DISCOVERED.



IN 2050,



YET  
MIZUKI...

BUT SINCE LOT OF THE  
BONES WERE SMASHED,  
AND 10 PEOPLE'S  
REMAINS WERE  
SCRAMBLED, IN THE  
END IDENTITIES OF ONLY  
2 PERSONS WERE  
CONFIRMED.  
MIZUKI WAS NOT  
AMONG THEM.

BECAUSE IT  
WAS SUSPECTED  
THEY BELONGED  
TO THE 12  
ABDUCTED  
JAPANESE,  
THEY WERE  
TURNED IN  
FOR DNA  
TESTING.



I GUESS THERE  
IS NO CHANCE  
THAT SHE'S ALIVE  
AND WE'LL MEET  
AGAIN.



WHY  
ARE YOU  
APOLO-  
GIZING?



SENDOU  
-SAN,



THAT'S  
JUST  
THE  
KIND OF  
MAN  
YOU  
ARE.

WERE YOU  
IN THAT  
SITUATION  
AGAIN,  
YOU'D ACT  
THE SAME  
AGAIN.



EVEN  
WHEN  
YOU'RE  
SUFFERING  
LIKE THIS,  
STILL...

YOU HATE ME, WHO  
KIDNAPPED YOUR  
DAUGHTER, SO MUCH  
THAT YOU'D LIKE  
TO KILL ME...  
AND YOU DON'T THINK  
THE MEASURES YOU  
HAD TAKEN 20 YEARS  
AGO WERE WRONG IN  
THE LEAST.



A MAN  
LIKE YOU,



THAT YOU THINK  
YOU HAVE TO MAKE  
THIS DISHONEST  
APOLOGY TO THE  
HATEFUL ME...

WANTING TO  
RESCUE YOUR  
DAUGHTER SO  
MUCH.

WHY?

WHY ARE YOU  
GROVELING ON THE  
FLOOR ON YOUR  
HANDS AND KNEES?  
THAT'S SO UNLIKE  
YOU.





'Why  
don't you  
kill me?'



'Why...'











LIVE

LIVE

NOW WE'RE  
GETTING FINAL  
CONFIRMATION OF  
THE MISSING  
GIRL'S IDENTITY  
FROM HER FAMILY  
FROM TOKUSHIMA.

AS SOON AS WE'RE  
DONE, WE'LL SEND  
YOU HER PERSONAL  
DATA AND PICTURES.  
STAY PUT  
UNTIL THEN.

Aoki!



HER IDENTITY?  
WE'LL HAVE  
PLENTY OF TIME TO  
CONFIRM IT AFTER  
WE RESCUE HER...

TO...  
TOKU-  
SHIMA?



IF WE ASK FOR THEIR  
COOPERATION, WE HAVE  
THE RESPONSIBILITY TO  
PROVIDE THE COAST  
GUARD HEADING THERE  
WITH THE NECESSARY  
INFORMATION!



PEOPLE WHO  
ARE GOING  
ON THE  
SEARCH  
MISSION  
ARE ALSO  
RISKING  
THEIR  
LIVES!

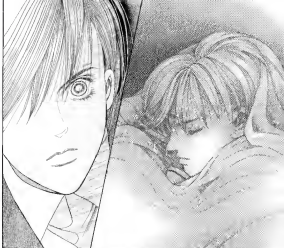


IT'S THE MOJI  
PORT AT 2AM  
ON THE 31ST  
MARCH.



HERE'S THE  
SQUARE PART,  
ENLARGED  
AND  
RETOUCHED.





WHO.

IT'S JUST THIS  
STILL IMAGE, BUT  
THERE ARE ABOUT  
10 CAMERAS  
FIXED AROUND  
THIS AREA.

IT'S RIGHT IN THE  
SHADOW OF THE  
CONTAINER, SO IT  
ESCAPED MY NOTICE  
AT FIRST. WHEN  
I ELIMINATED THE  
SHADOW IT CAME OUT.



GOOD  
WORK!

SO  
SURELY  
THERE  
WILL BE  
MORE...

WONDER-  
FUL...







UHL

THIS  
IS...



20  
"A PICTURE  
FROM A  
SECURITY  
CAMERA OR  
SIMILAR  
SOURCE WITH  
THE GIRL BEING  
LOCKED IN A  
CONTAINER."

10  
"IDENTITY OF  
THE GIRL  
WITH THE  
CONFIRMATION  
STATEMENT  
FROM THE  
CLOSEST  
FAMILY."



THERE  
WAS  
ONE  
MORE  
...

SO  
'A PROOF  
THAT SHE'S  
STILL  
ALIVE AND  
CALLING  
FOR HELP.'

IF WE HAD  
YOUR OFFICIAL  
REQUEST FOR  
COOPERATION  
FROM THE  
COAST  
GUARD...



WAIT  
THERE,  
MAKI-  
KUN.

AT THE  
MOMENT, A  
MEMBER OF  
'THE NINTH'  
IS HEADING TO  
THE AREA BY A  
HELICOPTER.

I THINK THAT  
HAVING GATHERED  
THIS MUCH APART  
FROM THE NINTH  
WOULD BE ENOUGH  
FOR AN ON-BOARD  
INVESTIGATION,  
INSPECTOR  
GENERAL.



DO  
YOU  
HAVE  
THAT?

I HEARD THERE IS  
A HIGH CHANCE  
THAT SHE'S DEAD. WHAT  
ALREADY? HAPPENED  
TO THIS  
MOST  
IMPOR-  
TANT  
POINT?

NO.

IT'S THE BRILLIANT  
YOU WERE TALKING  
ABOUT! DID YOU  
GET A PICTURE OF  
HER, STICKING HER  
HEAD OUT AND  
FLAG-SIGNALING  
AN SOS OR  
SOMETHING?

NO...  
I DIDN'T.

ON THE SHORT  
SUPPLIES OF WATER  
AND FOOD, HOW LONG  
WAS SHE CALLING FOR  
HER COUNTRY'S HELP  
FROM INSIDE THE  
CONTAINER...  
FINALLY...



HOW MUCH  
SHE'S  
SUFFERED,  
UNTIL WHEN  
SHE STAYED  
ALIVE...

IT'LL  
TURN  
OUT.  
BUT,



WHEN  
SHE  
TURNS  
INTO A  
CORPSE,



AND WE GET  
TO KNOW IT  
FROM HER  
TIME OF  
DEATH, IT'LL  
BE ALREADY  
TOO LATE.

"WHY,



FINALLY  
IT'LL BECOME  
CLEAR IN THE  
AUTOPSY  
OR MRI  
IMAGING.



WHEN THIS  
GOVERNMENT'S, THIS  
NATION'S, THIS POLICE'  
DO-NOTHING ACT GETS  
EXPOSED UNDER  
BROAD DAYLIGHT, THE  
PUBLIC OPINION WILL  
HOLD YOU UP FOR IT!  
EVEN IF YOU  
REGRET IT AND  
SAY IT WAS JUST A  
'LAPSE IN JUDGEMENT'  
IT'LL BE ALREADY TOO  
LATE! WHY—

**MAKI-  
KUN!**

WHY, HAVING  
HER JUST BEFORE  
YOUR EYES, DID  
YOU OVERLOOK A  
PERSON YOU  
COULD HAVE  
SAVED?



WHAT  
IS ALL  
THIS?

WHEN WILL THIS  
COUNTRY START  
TAKING PROTECTING  
IT'S PEOPLE'S LIVES  
SERIOUSLY? -  
THEY'LL ASK.

...MAKI-  
KUN.





**THERE!**



**WE CAN  
SEE THE  
'YAKUSHIMA'  
PATROL  
BOAT!**

**DETECTED  
!**

To 'Yakushima'  
Coast Guard  
patrol boat,  
we ask for a  
permission to  
land.

This is  
'Kawasemi'  
of Okinawa  
Prefectural  
Police.

This is  
'Kawasemi'  
of  
Okinawa...

THEY  
WOULDN'T  
JUST SEND  
THEIR  
COUNTRY'S  
PREFECTURAL  
POLICE  
HELICOPTER  
TO LAND,  
RIGHT?

THEY STILL  
HAVEN'T  
RECEIVED  
THE  
INSPECTOR  
GENERAL'S  
OFFICIAL  
REQUEST  
OF COOPERATION?







IF IT  
WAS...



JUST,

*Maki-  
san!*



YOUR  
DAUGHTER  
INSPECTOR  
GENERAL,

THAT  
WAS  
CLOSED  
IN  
THERE...

I WANT  
YOU TO  
CONSIDER  
THIS.

IF  
THAT  
...







EVEN IF  
SHE WAS  
ALREADY  
DECEASED,

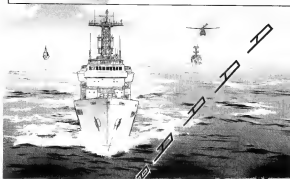


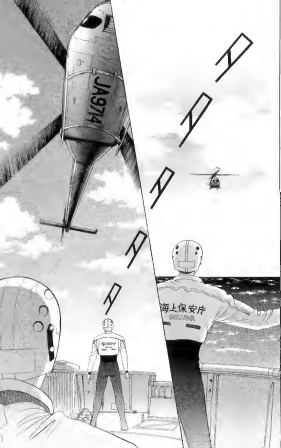
SAY,



WOULDN'T  
YOU WANT  
TO GET HER  
OUT OF THE  
DARK AND  
NARROW  
CONTAINER  
AS SOON AS  
YOU CAN?







A man with glasses and a headset is shown in a close-up, looking intently at the viewer. He is wearing a light-colored shirt and a dark tie. The background is dark and indistinct.

The Inspector General's  
official request of  
cooperation came in!  
From now we're assigned  
to joint operation to  
rescue victim from  
the 'Sendou Saki  
Abduction Case'.

Two men are shown in a control room. The man on the left is wearing a headset and looking towards the right. The man on the right is wearing glasses and looking towards the left. They are both wearing light-colored shirts and dark ties. The background shows various control panels and equipment.

You can  
land on the  
patrol boat  
'Yakushima'.





Maki-  
san...

'Kawasemi',  
you have the  
permission to  
land on the  
patrol boat  
'Yakushima'.













**DOCTOR  
NIYOSHI!**

THE SECTION  
CHIEF TOLD  
YOU TO COME  
QUICKLY,  
DOCTOR...

AOKI IS  
STILL IN  
HEARING  
THOU—



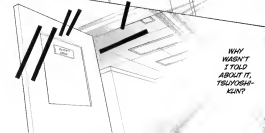
WHAT THE  
HELL!

SECRET OPERATION?  
RESCUING A GIRL  
LOCKED IN A  
CONTAINER?  
WHY WAS AOKI-KUN  
FROM THE NINTH  
ASSIGNED TO SUCH A  
DANGEROUS TASK?



...ANYTHING  
ABOUT IT?

I HAVEN'T  
HEARD,  
I HAVEN'T  
HEARD...



WHY  
HASN'T  
I TOLD  
ABOUT IT,  
TELLYORSHI-  
KUN?





MAKI-SAN  
...?





















**JUST  
HURRY UP,  
AND  
SEE HIS  
BRAIN...!**



**WATCH IT,  
AND FIND  
SAKI'S  
LOCATION AT  
ONCE! YOU  
INCOMPETENT  
FOOLS!**

**HE'S  
ALREADY  
DEAD!**







R E I K O   S H I M I Z U  
T H E   T O P   S E C R E T

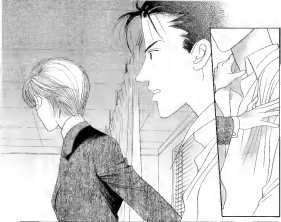






THE  
MINISTER  
HAG...?  
...  
WHAT  
ON  
EARTH!









DOCTOR  
YUKIKO...!











SO UM,  
SEE YOU  
AOKI!  
GET WELL!

Y...YOU  
TOO  
DOCTOR  
MUYOYANI!

AH, YEAH,  
SORRY  
THERE,  
I'LL JUST  
TACTFULLY...



Okabe-  
san...



A-HEY,  
MAKI-  
SANI!

WAIT UP,  
MAKI-SANI!  
DON'T  
CLOSE  
THE  
DOORS  
YET!



AOKI-  
KLIN.



Why are  
you in  
such  
hurry  
any?



LET ME  
SEE.

THIS.



UPON  
INSPECTION—

THE MINISTER  
WHO KILLED  
AKAJI WAS  
ARRESTED ON  
THE SPOT.

HE HAD THE  
MEDICAL TOOL  
THAT WOULD  
LATER BE USED  
AS A WEAPON  
INSIDE A  
NURSE'S CART.

HE THEN WAITED  
UNTIL THE NURSE  
APPEARED,  
MAKING HER  
ROUNDS,  
BARGED IN—  
AND COMMITTED  
THE CRIME.

BEFORE ENTERING  
THE ROOM,  
KNOWING ABOUT  
THE BODY CHECK  
UPON GOING  
IN AND THE  
SECURITY CAMERAS  
INSTALLED IN  
SEVERAL PLACES.



AFTER  
THAT



INSPECTOR  
GENERAL?

THIS WAY  
IT WON'T  
QUIT  
DOWN...

NOTION ON  
THE NET AND TV  
AN OVERWHELMING  
AMOUNT OF VOICES  
ARE DOING WITH THE  
MINISTER, ASKING  
WHY ISN'T THE  
NATION WORKING ON  
THE BRAIN THEY  
RECEIVED.

IT'S JUST AS  
EVERY NEWS  
OUTLET IS  
FIZZLING  
AROUND.

THE GIRL'S LIFE  
SHOULD BE  
MADE A PRIORITY.  
THE WHOLE  
COUNTRY  
IS HOLDING  
ITS BREATH,  
WAITING FOR A  
CONCLUSION TO  
THIS CASE.

THIS IS NOT THE  
TIME TO THINK IF IT'S  
GETTING A PRECEDENT  
TO THE MRI  
INVESTIGATION ETHICS  
OR MISUSAGE THAT THE  
SUPERINTENDENT MAKI  
KEEPS COMPLAINING  
ABOUT.

...IS IT  
AN UPGRADE  
IMPROVE-  
MENT?

IF FOLLOWING  
HIRANO NOZOMI  
THEY ALSO  
RESCUED SENDOU  
SAKI, IT WOULD BE  
A ONCE IN A  
LIFETIME  
CHANCE...

WELL,  
IF  
YOU PREFER  
THAT WORK  
EXPRESSION

CALL  
SUPER-  
INTENDENT  
MAKI HERE.



They found  
the girl!





Is Saki-chan alive?  
The stretcher is  
being carried  
now! The troops  
are covering the  
view with a blue  
sheet.

It seems they  
can see her!  
Suddenly  
the troops'  
movements  
become  
hurried.

For the time  
being, she'll  
probably be  
transported to  
the hospital by a  
helicopter.

We can't tell Saki-chan's  
condition from where she's  
hidden in numerous blankets  
and behind the sheet.

Just 32 hours  
have passed  
since  
Minster  
Sendou killed  
Awaji, the  
kidnapper...

Is this  
spectacle  
seen...

...And barely 7 hours since  
the Ninth Department  
began the MRI  
investigation. What an  
amazing speed of this  
dramatic rescue!







That's  
right.



...don't  
...from  
...eyes...

...don't  
...from  
...eyes...

THAT'S  
BECAUSE  
HE WAS  
AGAINST THE  
INVESTIGATION  
...



Creating  
better  
steps  
won't  
work, any  
if they  
don't  
slow  
Tragick-  
man!

...  
YEAH  
...



Conversely,  
Awajisan had  
died.

We didn't  
save  
everyone.



Should  
not be  
used that  
way.

WRI.



Just to  
obtain  
the infor-  
mation  
from his  
brain.

Paying for his  
mistakes as it  
may've been,  
in order to  
save a life his  
own life was  
stolen.



Was he  
watching  
the  
monitor  
with his  
hands  
trembling  
again?

This  
time  
too.



'Ever.'



And yet, his hands are trembling slightly—

He departed from his principle for that girl.







I'LL  
STAY  
WITH YOU  
ALWAYS,  
DOCTOR!

I'M  
FINE,  
AND  
I'M...



...I'M  
NOT  
GOING  
TO DIE  
SO...



At that  
moment,



...I'LL  
ALWAYS  
BE  
HERE...

But in  
the end,  
no sound  
left my  
lips.

I kept  
thinking that  
I should've  
said the  
same words  
to someone  
else.



Even if it  
hadn't only  
lasted a few  
minutes  
but an  
eternity--



Even if I  
could go  
back to  
that  
moment--

I probably  
still  
wouldn't  
have said  
anything.



To  
him.

I couldn't  
say it.  
I didn't  
say it...

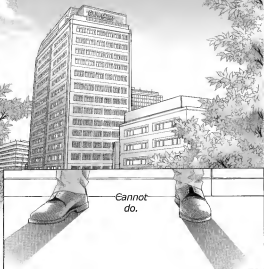




I can't find  
them.

Putting  
what I have  
to say into  
words is  
something  
I still ..

I still don't  
have the  
words I  
should've  
said to me,  
or maybe  
I don't  
understand  
them.









THE WHOLE  
PRESS AND TV  
TREAT YOU  
AS A HERO.

A COLUMN  
FROM A  
PERIODICAL:  
"...THOUGH IT  
REMAINS A  
FOULISH CRIME,  
MINISTER'S  
ACT PROVED..."



AS  
YOU ARE  
AWARE,



THIS ONE IS  
A FOREIGN  
ECONOMIC  
MAGAZINE:  
"THE  
ONE WHO  
SHOULD BE  
JUDGED  
IS THE  
COWARDLY  
KIDNAPPER,  
AWAJI."

THE  
ULTIMATE  
SELF-  
SACRIFICE  
BASED  
ON DETER-  
MINATION,  
A HUMAN  
DRAMA  
FOLLOWING  
THE ARCHET-  
YPE FROM  
THE TALE OF  
47 RONIN."

"IS THERE  
EVEN A  
FATHER THAT  
WOULD EX-  
PLAIN TO HIS  
DAUGHTER  
THAT WHAT  
MINISTER  
SENDOU DID  
WAS WRONG?"

...THAT HE CHOSE  
THE LIFE OF HIS  
DAUGHTER OVER HIS  
POSITION AS THE  
"MINISTER" EVEN IF  
HE HAD TO SERVE HIS  
PUNISHMENT IN PRISON  
FOR IT.

...HOW CAN ANY FATHER  
JUDGE THIS MAN?"



END WITH  
A LONG  
IMPRISON-  
MENT."

THE MINISTER,  
ONE-SIDEDLY  
HATED FOR MERELY  
CARRYING OUT HIS  
DUTIES IS NOTHING  
BUT A VICTIM.  
AS A FELLOW FATHER,  
I'M ONLY PLEADING TO  
THE JURORS NOT TO  
LET THIS ACT OF  
PROTECTING ONE'S  
FAMILY,



THERE ARE  
EVEN SIGNATURE-  
COLLECTING  
CAMPAIGNS BEING  
CARRIED OUT  
ON THE STREETS.

YOU DON'T KNOW WITH  
THE CITIZEN JUDGE  
SYSTEM. IN AMERICA, A  
MAN WHO SHOT THE  
TEACHER WHO HAD  
RAPED HIS SON WAS  
DECLARED INNOCENT.

...IT WON'T  
AVAIL TO MUCH  
IN COURT.



SINCE I'M IN  
THIS HOSPITAL,  
I'LL BE ABLE  
TO MEET  
SAKI WHO'S  
ADMITTED  
HERE.

WHAT'S  
YOUR  
POINT?

...?



SAKI,  
YOUR BELOVED  
DAUGHTER, THAT  
YOU SACRIFICED  
EVERYTHING  
TO PROTECT.

AH,  
YES.







...! FATHER  
WAS...

GAO  
...!!



I'LL  
PROPERLY  
APOLOGIZE  
...

BE-  
CAUSE  
FATHER  
...



...EARLIER,  
I SAID THAT  
HE VALUES HIS  
WORK MORE  
THAN US...

I'LL  
PRO-  
PERLY  
...



YOUR  
FATHER  
IS...

MOM  
WILL  
APOLO-  
GIZE  
AS  
WELL.

YES...  
THAT'S  
TRUE...  
THAT'S  
RIGHT



THE DNA  
PATERNITY  
TEST...

...THE MOST  
WONDERFUL  
FATHER...!







THERE ARE SEVERAL METHODS, SUCH AS THE STR AND ALP METHOD, BUT...

TO PUT IT SIMPLY, IT'S A METHOD THAT ALLOWS TO DETERMINE WHETHER ONE IS A PARENT OF A CHILD OR NOT. IT USES THE BASE SEQUENCE OF THE HUMAN GENOME WHICH HOLDS INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EVERY PERSON.




IF YOU COMPARE THESE TWO BARCODE-LIKE IMAGES,



...ALL OF THEM HAD THE SAME RESULT.

Saki

Mother



THESE ARE KNOWN AS MINISATELLITES OR VNTR. BASED ON THESE, WE CAN DETERMINE WITH 99% ACCURACY IF THEY ARE A PARENT AND CHILD. IT LOOKS LIKE THIS BECAUSE SHE INHERITED THE GENES FROM HER MOTHER.

SAKI-GAN'S AND YOUR WIFE'S WHO ARE A MOTHER AND DAUGHTER, OVERLAP IN SEVERAL PLACES.

THIS TIME, THE  
MINGSATELLITES  
WHERE MOTHER AND  
DAUGHTER PARTS  
OVERLAPPED WERE  
REMOVED.  
THE REMAINING  
PARTS SHOULD  
OVERLAP WITH YOU,  
THE FATHER.



THEN,  
LET'S  
SEE HOW  
YOURS  
AND SAKI'S  
ALIGN.

Saki

Mother

THE OPINION  
OF THE FIELD  
EXPERT  
STATES...



Saki

Mother

'NEGATIVE'.



0%

Father!

'THE  
ALLEGED FATHER,  
SENDU USHIO IS  
EXCLUDED AS  
A BIOLOGICAL  
FATHER OF THE  
TESTED CHILD,  
SENDU SAKI.'







...YOU...!  
WHAT  
RIGHT DO  
YOU HAVE  
TO-!

KNOW  
SOME  
SHAME!





WE TESTED THE PATERNITY BY COMPARING THE HAIR SAMPLES THAT AWAJI HAD LEFT IN HIS ROOM, AND THEN REDONE THE TESTING WITH THE SAMPLES YOU AND YOUR WIFE PROVIDED AS WELL, BUT THE RESULTS TURNED OUT THE SAME.

SINCE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE INVESTIGATION WE HAD LITTLE TIME, BACK THEN WE ONLY CHECKED THE DNA MATERIAL AGAINST YOUR WIFE'S, BUT...

LI  
LI

...AWAJI HAS...  
WHY...?  
HOW DID HE  
HAVE MY...?

SIT  
DOWN...

DO THAT AGAIN,  
AND WE'LL ADD  
ATTEMPTED  
BODILY HARM  
TO THE  
CHARGES!

SIT  
DOWN AND  
LISTEN!

HEY, GET  
THIS HAND  
OFF...





AWAJI  
OBTAINED  
YOUR  
CIGARETTE  
BUTT.



.....!!

OKABE!



.....



HE CHECKED  
THROUGH  
HOTELS YOU  
FREQUENTLY  
USED AND  
SNEAKED IN AS  
AN EMPLOYEE.

HE ALSO GOT YOUR USED UP RAZORS,  
HAIR FROM A HUSBANDSH...  
HE PICKED UP EVERYTHING THAT COULD CONTAIN A  
DNA SAMPLE, WITH A PERSISTENCY THAT WOULD PUT  
A PRO LAB WORKER TO SHAME.

SAKIS MATERIAL WAS A CHEWING GUM TAKEN OUT  
OF TRASH. CAREFUL NOT TO CONTAMINATE THE  
SAMPLES HE EVEN USED GLOVES AND TWEEZERS.



AWAJI HAS  
DEVOTED THE  
REST OF HIS  
LIFE TO THIS  
CRIME.

SINCE MARCH LAST  
YEAR WHEN HE  
HEARD THAT HE  
HAD ONE YEAR  
LEFT TO LIVE,

AND SO,  
HIS PLAN TO KIDNAP  
TWO GIRLS IN APRIL  
ON THE FOLLOWING  
YEAR 2062 BECAME...

IN HIS SEARCH HE  
TRACED BACK TWENTY  
OR THIRTY YEARS  
TO FIND ANY  
WEAKNESSES  
OF YOURS.





HIS AIM TO LIVE,  
AND A SUPPORT  
TO HIS  
CANCER-RIDDEN  
BODY.



WHAT  
THE  
HELL...



IT'S  
TIME.

LET'S  
STOP  
HERE FOR  
TODAY.



WHAT,

...WHAT'S  
IT ALL  
ABOUT...?  
WHY DID HE  
DO ALL  
THAT?



WAIT A  
SECOND,  
I'LL CALL  
THE GUARD.



IT'S YOUR  
WELL AWAITED  
MEETING WITH  
SAKI-CHAN.

DID YOU  
FORGET?



YES,  
SIR!

**WAIT.**

CHASE!



I  
WON'T...  
MEET  
WITH  
SAKI!



WAIT...







...HAD  
I...

IT  
DOESN'T  
MATTER!



...  
HAD I  
KNOWN  
...

IT'S BECAUSE  
YOU HAD A BOND  
LASTING FOURTEEN  
YEARS, THAT YOU WERE  
READY TO BECOME A  
MURDERER TO PROTECT  
GAKU-CHAN...

THE BLOOD  
SHOULDN'T BE  
THE MOST  
ESSENTIAL  
THING HERE.

I KNOW IT  
MUST HAVE  
BEEN HARD TO  
HEAR THE DNA  
RESULTS BUT,

IT DOESN'T  
NECESSARILY  
MEAN YOUR WIFE  
BETRAYED YOU.  
I THINK IT'S A  
GOOD TIME  
TO HONESTLY  
TALK TO HER  
ABOUT IT.



...THAT SHE  
WASNT MY  
CHILD...



WHO  
...

...I  
WOULDN'T  
HAD  
MURDERED  
AWAJI!



**A BOND  
LASTING  
FOURTEEN  
YEARS?  
WRONG!**

**WRONG!**



**...WHO  
WOULD  
BECOME A  
MURDERER  
FOR A  
STRANGER?**

**I'M A  
MINISTER!**

**FOR THESE  
14 YEARS...  
I WAS BEING  
BETRAYED!**



**Father!**



**WITHOUT  
KNOWING  
ANYTHING**

**LIKE  
SOME  
IDIOT I...**



**CAN YOU  
EVEN UNDER-  
STAND THE  
REGRET AND  
HUMILIATION  
I'M GOING  
THROUGH?**

**SAKI  
AND...**

**FOR SAKI  
I LOST  
EVERYTHING!**



...THE WIFE WHO  
BETRAYED ME  
ARE TWO PEOPLE  
I DON'T WANT TO  
SEE THE MOST  
RIGHT NOW!







DO YOU REMEMBER  
AMATSU'S CRIME  
CONFESSION?



THIS  
STATEMENT  
SEEMS A BIT  
STRANGE.

AWAJI  
KNEW THAT  
SAKI-CHAN  
IS NOT  
YOUR REAL  
DAUGHTER.

'I KIDNAPPED  
THE MINISTER'S  
SOLE  
DAUGHTER.'

BUT  
HE WAS  
RIGHT.

THAT  
PICTURE  
...

KNOW-  
ING  
THAT,

AWAJI  
HAD  
BEEN...

...WASN'T A  
FAKE.

HE ONLY  
WANTED  
TO SHOW  
US...

SAYING  
NOTHING  
BUT THE  
TRUTH  
FROM THE  
BEGINNING.







THIS IS YOU FROM THE TIME WHEN YOU SERVED AS THE JAPANESE CONSUL GENERAL IN BOSTON.



...WOMAN THAT'S ONLY TAKING HER HAND OFF YOU SINCE SHE NOTICED THE CAMERA.



THIS ...







IT'S  
YOUR  
CHILD.



THAT  
ILLEGITIMATE  
CHILD IS  
NOZOMI.



THAT'S  
RIGHT.



THERE IS  
A 99% MATCH,  
WHICH PROVES  
YOU'RE HER  
BIOLOGICAL  
FATHER.  
OF COURSE,  
AWAJI WAS  
AWARE OF  
THAT.



THESE ARE  
THE RESULTS  
FROM  
COMPARING  
HER HAIR  
SAMPLE EX-  
TRACTED BY  
AWAJI AND  
YOUR DNA.



FROM  
THE VERY  
BEGINNING.



WHEN HE SAID THAT HE  
'KIDNAPPED YOUR SOLE  
DAUGHTER', HE DIDN'T  
MEAN SAKI-CHAN.



HE WAS TALKING  
ABOUT NOZOWI-SAN,  
THE GIRL HE MADE TO  
LOOK LIKE SAKI-CHAN  
AND TRAPPED ON A  
CONTAINER SHIP.



I DIDN'T  
KNOW....

子、平  
期は子、平  
ある可能性から検算され  
父性確率は、99.99999%  
月10日  
電着する



AT THAT  
TIME...

IT'S TRUE  
THAT SHE  
HAD THAT  
RESERVED  
SIDE TO HER  
BUT...

TO THINK  
THAT SHE  
GAVE BIRTH  
TO HER ALL  
ALONE...









YOU.



HIS AIM  
WAS  
ONLY...



HE DIDN'T MIND  
ENDANGERING  
NOT ONLY HIS LIFE,  
BUT ALSO YOUR  
ACTUAL DAUGHTERS,  
NOZOMI-SAN'S.  
RATHER,

HE PLAYED HIS PIECES  
AS WELL AS HE  
COULD TO INFLICT THE  
GREATEST POSSIBLE  
DAMAGE TO YOU.  
TO DO SO,



HE THOUGHT OF  
MAKING THE MOST  
OF TAKING HER  
LIFE.



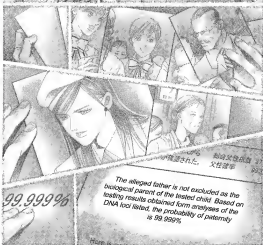
WHICH  
WAS...





PCR-based DNA Paternity Test  
Result Sheet

Locus	Sample	Sample		Reference		Reference	
		Sample	Reference	Sample	Reference	Sample	Reference
STR1	Sample	1	1	1	1	1	1
STR2	Sample	2	2	2	2	2	2
STR3	Sample	3	3	3	3	3	3
STR4	Sample	4	4	4	4	4	4
STR5	Sample	5	5	5	5	5	5
STR6	Sample	6	6	6	6	6	6
STR7	Sample	7	7	7	7	7	7
STR8	Sample	8	8	8	8	8	8
STR9	Sample	9	9	9	9	9	9
STR10	Sample	10	10	10	10	10	10







THEN...

AND EVEN  
WITH HIS  
BLIND  
RIDDEN BODY  
HE TRA-  
VELED TO  
NOBOMI-SAN  
YOUR REAL  
DAUGHTER.

HE ALSO  
GOT AHEAD  
OF YOUR  
WIFE AND  
SAMI-SAN'S  
SECRET.



THE  
'PLAN OF  
THE CRIME'  
AWAJI  
THOUGHT  
OF...

THE  
CHOICE OF THE  
CONTAINER SHIP  
PLACE WHERE HE  
HID SAMI-SAN,  
THE PROCEDURE OF  
GETTING HER ON  
'HITAIR' ETC. WERE  
ALL METICULOUSLY  
THOUGHT OUT.  
BUT ALONG WITH  
ITS INTRICACY,  
THE PLAN BECAME  
STUFFED WITH  
POTENTIALLY  
DANGEROUS  
ACCIDENTAL  
FACTORS.

WITH AN  
UNUSUAL  
TENSICITY  
HE RE-  
SEARCHED  
YOUR  
PAST...

HE  
TRACKED  
THE  
FOOTSTEPS  
OF THE  
SAMADA  
MIRAKO  
YOU PRETTY  
OPENLY  
DATED BACK  
IN THE PAST.

AWAJI...



MOZOMB-SAN  
WOULD HAVE  
BEEN SMOOTHLY  
RESCUED AND THE  
DEVELOPMENT  
AWAJI WISHED  
FOR WOULDN'T  
HAVE TAKEN  
PLACE.

FIRSTLY,  
HAD ALTAR  
OBEIENTLY  
COMPLIED WITH  
THE ORDER TO  
STOP THE SHIP  
AND ALLOWED  
THE ON-BOARD  
INVESTIGATION,

SECONDLY, IT WOULD  
HAVE BEEN THE GAME IF  
WE AT THE NINTAL  
HADN'T NOTICED THAT  
THE GIRL IN THE  
PICTURE WAS A 'FAKE'.  
HAVING BELIEVED SHE WAS  
IN FACT SAKI-CHAN, WE...  
YOU'D HAVE TAKEN ALL THE  
NECESSARY MEASURES TO  
SAVE HER.



IT'D HAVE TAKEN SOME TIME,  
BUT MOZOMB-SAN WOULD BE  
RESCUED, EVEN IF AFTER THAT  
HAD YOU EVEN LEARN'T THE  
'SECRET OF HER BIRTH'.  
IT WOULDN'T HAVE INFLECTED  
MUCH DAMAGE TO EITHER  
OF YOU.

AN YET,  
DESPITE ALL THAT,  
AWAJI DECIDED TO  
TAKE A BIT ON  
THIS PLAN.



MOREOVER,  
IT WOULD ONLY  
HAVE BROUGHT THE  
RISK OF STRENGTHENING  
YOUR RELATION, HAD SHE  
LEARN'T THAT 'IT WAS HER  
REAL FATHER WHO HAD  
SAVED HER' AND YOU HAD  
REALISED THAT YOU HAD  
'ACCIDENTALLY RESCUED  
YOUR BIOLOGICAL  
DAUGHTER'.



ON THE  
INFORMATION THAT  
THE 'ALTAR' WOULD  
BE TRANSPORTED  
FORBIDDEN  
GOODS THAT DAY,  
AND DEFINITELY  
WOULDN'T EASILY  
COMPLY TO THE  
ORDERS.

ON US,  
THE NINTH  
TO PROMPTLY  
NOTICE THAT  
'SARU-CHAN'  
WAS A  
'BODY DOUBLE'.

AND...



HE  
BELIEVED  
THAT IF IT  
WAS YOU...



...ON YOU WHO  
UPON KNOWING  
THAT IT'S NOT  
ACTUALLY 'YOUR  
DAUGHTER' ON  
THE SHIP...



YOU, WHO HAD  
ABANDONED  
THE  
KIDNAPPED  
VICTIMS BACK  
THEN...

Don't  
disturb  
him, Chief!

She's  
still  
alive!

Please  
continue  
the  
investigation!

Chief!



THE GAME  
AS 20 YEARS  
AGO...

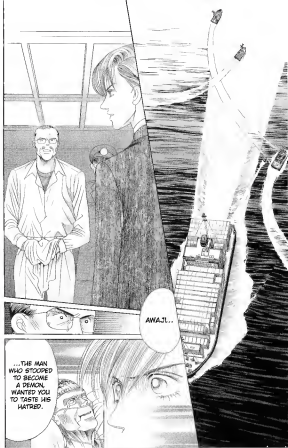


AND...

THIS TIME AS  
WELL YOU'D  
SURELY PICK  
DIPLOMATIC  
RELATIONS  
OVER HUMAN  
LIFE.

HE BET  
ON IT.

...YOU DID,  
JUST AS HE  
EXPECTED.



AWA-JL...

...THE MAN  
WHO STOOD  
TO BECOME  
A DEMON,  
WANTED YOU  
TO TASTE HIS  
HATRED.



AND THAT  
THE ONLY  
CHILD THAT  
WAS 'ACTUALLY  
YOURS'  
WAS...

HE WANTED YOU  
TO REALIZE  
THAT THE GIRL  
YOU BECAME  
A MURDERER  
FOR WAS  
'A STRANGER',



...KILLED BY  
YOUR OWN  
DECISION.



...TO YOU.



HE WANTED  
TO GIVE  
A TASTE OF  
THESE 'TWO  
LAYERS' OF  
SUFFERING...



THAT...

THE SINGLE  
MISTAKE IN ANALYSIS  
CALCULATIONS WAS...

JUST  
...



AND THAT  
THANKS TO HIM,  
NORRIM-SAN, ONCE  
ABANDONED BY ALL,



...THERE  
WOULD BE ONE  
FOOLISH MAN  
READY TO PILOT  
A HELICOPTER BY  
HIMSELF TO  
RESUE A  
COMPLETE  
STRANGER.







'THE FIRST TIME  
WAS 28 YEARS AGO,  
WHEN I LEARNED ABOUT  
YOUR MOTHER'S  
PREGNANCY.'



GO AHEAD,  
MINISTER.  
PLEASE  
LET YOUR  
DAUGHTER  
HEAR IT FROM  
YOUR LIPS.



'I AM...'



'THE SECOND TIME  
WAS A WEEK AGO,  
WHEN I ISSUED A  
RETREAT ORDER TO  
THE COAST GUARD.'



'...THE FATHER  
WHO'S ABANDONED  
YOU TWICE.'





I BET  
SHE'LL  
BE  
DELIGHTED.



DON'T  
FOLLOW  
ME!

MAKI-  
SAMI!

NA  
...



AM  
...





As stated above,

In a street  
interview,  
a majority of 80%  
is siding with the  
Minister.



An overwhelming  
number of people  
believe he should  
be declared  
innocent.



There were also many  
voices from the young  
women saying that he  
was "A perfect father"  
and they "Wanted to  
be raised by someone  
like him".



This act of  
selfless love between  
a parent and child  
became a weapon in  
a crime.

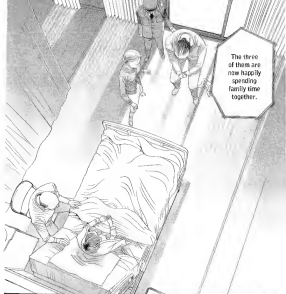
Nowadays,  
when the familial  
bonds are getting  
thinner,

But it's  
because of that,  
that this case  
managed to  
capture the hearts  
of so many.

According to our sources,  
today, right here in this  
hospital, the family reunion  
is to take place.

One thing I can  
say for sure.  
Said-chan and  
the Minister,  
as well as his  
wife...

In this very moment,  
a father and daughter  
with the strongest  
bond in Japan are  
seeing each other  
face to face again.







I THINK  
YOU SHOULD  
ANSWER TO  
YOUR WIFE,  
YOUR  
DAUGHTER'S  
MOTHER.



THAT  
WASN'T  
SAID?

WHAT  
...

'BODY  
DOUBLE?'  
'WRONG  
PERSON?'  
THAT  
WASN'T...



THE GUILPT  
MADE ANOTHER  
GIRL WITH  
A SIMILAR  
HAIRCUT WEAR  
SCHOOL  
UNIFORM.

AROUND AN  
HOUR AGO,  
YOUR WIFE  
CONFIRMED  
THAT.  
THE DECISIVE  
POINT WAS HER  
PIERCING HOLE.

CONSIDERING  
HER WORDS,  
YOUR PERSONAL  
HISTORY AND  
THE NATURE OF  
THE CRIME, IT'S  
ABOUT YOU,  
AFTER ALL.



AND YOSHIDA  
SAME SACRIFICED  
HER LIFE IN  
ORDER TO  
SHOW US THE  
INFORMATION.  
THEIR GOAL IS  
STILL UNKNOWN,  
BUT...



Don't  
observe  
Am.  
Chief

Am I  
really a threat  
only for her last  
colleague?



She's still alive?  
Why are you making  
distinctions from the  
witnesses? Please  
continue the  
investigation!



WE SUSPECT  
THAT IT'S  
PERSONAL  
REVENGE  
AGAINST YOU,  
MINISTER.



Warning  
shot,



AFTER  
ALL THIS  
TIME...

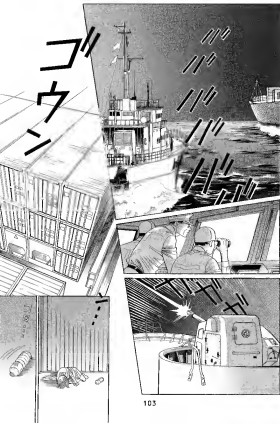
NO...  
IMPOSSIBLE



Fire!!













I'M  
BECOMING  
A DEMON.



March 2062

One Year later, Tokyo





NANJOU ACADEMY  
JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

2nd Year - Seidou Saki (16)







**NOZOMI  
?!**



**HELP!**







MOOOM!

ガ  
ラ  
ガ

ラ  
ガ  
ラ

HELP  
ME!





***MOM!***



**MINISTER  
OF  
FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS!**

**THE KIDNAPPER'S  
CRIME CONFESSION  
IS PRINTED IN EVERY  
NEWSPAPER,  
BUT IS IT TRUE THAT  
YOUR DAUGHTER—  
WAS SENDOU SAKI-  
SAN ABDUCTED?**

**STAY  
AWAY!**

**MINI-  
STER  
SENDOU!**

**ANY  
COM-  
MENT?**

**MINISTER!**

**IS IT A  
PERSONAL  
GRUDGE? SOME  
SAY THAT IT  
WAS AN ACT OF  
A TERRORIST  
GROUP...**

**DO YOU  
KNOW THE  
GUILPITT?**





AT THE END OF MARCH, MINISTER'S ONLY DAUGHTER, 14 YEARS OLD SENDOU SAKI, WAS DECLARED MISSING AND POLICE STARTED THE SEARCH. BEGINNING OF APRIL, THE CULPRIT'S ADMISSION THAT HE KIDNAPPED THE GIRL WAS SENT TO ALL MASS MEDIA. THAT SAME DAY, AN INVESTIGATION UNIT WAS ESTABLISHED.

THIS WAS THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER SENDOU FROM THREE DAYS AGO, APRIL 4TH.

WAIT, OKABE-SAN... IS THERE ANY LINK BETWEEN THIS CRIME AND THE NINTH? SURELY IT'S A BIG CASE GETTING A LOT OF ATTENTION THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY...

IT WAS A BOLD CRIME. ONE COULD SAY EVEN SAY CARELESS. THERE WAS A LOT OF LEFT BEHIND OBJECTS AND EVIDENCE, AND I'VE HEARD THAT NARROWING DOWN THE LIST OF SUSPECTS IS PROGRESSING AS WELL, BUT...

...HOWEVER, IN THE ADMISSION THERE WAS NOTHING ABOUT THE DEMANDS OR ANY OBJECTIVE BEHIND THE ACT.

BUT AS LONG AS NO ONE DIES, THE NINTH'S ROLE IS...





力平





Tell him  
that she's  
not coming  
back!



...ON THE  
OTHER  
HAND,



BECAUSE OF THE POLICE  
INCOMPETENCE THROUGHOUT  
THE ARREST, IT ENDED UP  
WITH THE WORST OUTCOMES—  
SENDOU SAKI'S WELLBEING  
AND CURRENT WHEREABOUTS  
REMAIN UNKNOWN.

GROUP 1

THE  
SUSPECT  
ROLE...  
A  
MOMENT



YES?

KO-  
IKE,



THE POLICE IS SCRAMBLING  
AROUND WITH NOT A SECOND  
TO SPARE YET THE TIME FLIES  
AWAY WHILE THEY HAVE TO  
DEAL WITH TRIVIALITIES SUCH  
AS TIME LIMITED CUSTODY,  
THE WITNESSES KEEPING  
SILENT AND THAT VALUABLE  
GUILT ADMISSION, ALL TRUTH  
MIXED WITH LIES.  
IT WAS ONLY TO BE  
EXPECTED...



IT WAS DECIDED THAT FROM THIS DAY ONWARD, 'THE NINTH' WILL TAKE OVER FULL AUTHORITY OVER THE 'SENDOU SAKI ABDUCTION CASE'.

DUE TO YOSHIDA SANAE'S DEATH, OUR COOPERATION WAS REQUESTED ON THE WHOLE INVESTIGATION.

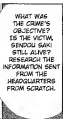
EHR?

!!

AS SOON AS YOSHIDA SANAE'S BRAIN DATA COME IN, WE'RE STARTING THE FULL MRI INVESTIGATION!







.....

"The Ninth" leading this important case...

Taking over full command.

WHAT WAS THE CRIME'S OBJECTIVE? IS THE VICTIM, SENDOU SAKI STILL ALIVE? RESEARCH THE INFORMATION SENT FROM THE HEADQUARTERS FROM SCRATCH.



IT SEEMS



**YES SIR!**

**GOT IT!**

**THE NEXT POLICE' BLINDER CAN COST SENDOU SAKI HER LIFE, SO GET TO WORK YOU ALL!**

...THAT SOMEONE ELSE WANTS ME TO SCORN THEM LIKE KAIKE?

**GO!  
GO!  
GO!**



'In the  
beginning  
was the  
corpse.'



This is the reason  
why 'The Ninth' and  
its 'Investigation  
that breaches  
God's territory'  
are loathed  
by the people.

Until a corpse comes up,  
there is no place  
for 'The Ninth' to act,  
but when it does—

As long as the brain is  
intact, like a god of death  
with a miraculous power  
we can uncover the truth  
and solve the cases.



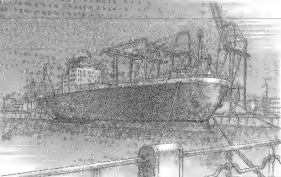
The deceased  
person's  
memories and  
the world as  
they saw it,  
become an  
object of in-  
vestigation and  
get dragged  
into the public.





Before MRI,  
exposing such  
secrets was  
considered an  
act impossible to  
anyone but the  
God Creator.

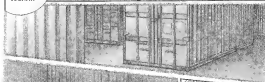




IT'S FROM  
APRIL 1ST,  
EXACTLY A  
WEEK AGO.

A  
SHIP...  
IS IT A  
PORT?

UNO-SAN IS  
SEARCHING  
WHAT PORT  
IS THAT,  
BUT THE  
PROBLEM  
IS JUST  
AHEAD...







THAT'S

real

MAD-  
SAN, SO  
SHE...



THIS IS THE  
UNIFORM SAKI  
WORE AT THE  
TIME OF THE  
ABDUCTION!  
THE HAIRSTYLE  
TOO...

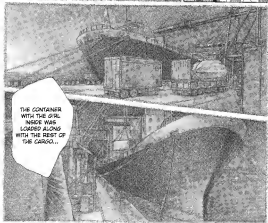


YES,

....

NEXT,











A  
week

It's been  
already...

Alive,  
inside the  
container...

MAKI-  
SAN,

✂  
✂

I'VE IDENTIFIED THE  
PORT - IT'S THE MOJI  
PORT IN FUKUOKA!  
I'M NOW SEARCHING  
THE LIST OF VESSELS  
THAT SET SAIL ON  
APRIL 1ST, TO FIND  
THE CONTAINER SHIP  
TO WHICH THE GIRL  
WAS LOADED.

al-nasr al-is'ir

HUNT

?

النسر الطائر

IN ENGLISH  
SPELLING,  
"ALTAIR",  
FROM THE  
HOISTED FLAG  
AND SHIP'S  
COUNTRY OF  
REGISTRATION,  
WE KNOW IT  
BELONGS TO  
ISRAEL.

IT WAS  
WRITTEN  
ON THE  
STERN.

IT MEANS  
"A FLYING  
EAGLE" IN  
ARABIC.

**ACCESS JAPAN  
COAST GUARD AND  
INTERNATIONAL  
MARITIME  
ORGANIZATION,  
AND CONFIRM  
'ALTAIR' OF  
ERBUICO'S  
CURRENT  
POSITION!**

A  
MUSIC



**FIX THE  
BLURRY  
PARTS!**

1/4  
#  
1/2

**OKAYE,  
MAIL THE PICTURE  
FROM BEFORE TO  
THE MINISTER AND  
HAVE HIM CONFIRM  
IF IT'S SENDOU  
SARU.**

**WHEN SHE  
GETS ON THE  
INTERNATIONAL  
WATERS,  
RESCUING HER  
WILL BECOME  
TROUBLESOME!**

**HURRY  
UP!**



**DAWDLING LIKE  
THIS, ARE YOU  
FINE WITH  
RETRIEVING A  
CORPSE?!**



MRJ  
invoc-  
tion  
is.



Super-  
inten-  
dent  
Maki...

Holding  
unpa-  
ralleled  
both  
know-  
ledge  
and  
judge-  
ment  
abrity,

Without doubt  
something that  
tramples people's  
privacy and good  
ethics, a devilish  
investigation  
method.

Sometimes  
it can  
become  
a gratest  
weapon for  
saving  
people's  
lives.

Yet

When he's  
in charge

THIS  
IS THE  
SHIP'S  
CURRENT  
LOCATION.



THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IS ALREADY TAKING ACTION BUT THE POLITICAL SITUATION OF BRIBUGO IS UNSTABLE AND BECAUSE THE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH JAPAN ARE NOT NORMALIZING, THE NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT BECOME A ROUGH JOURNEY...

ON THE WAY THE SHIP TURNED INTO A PORT IN BRUGAN AND STILL HASN'T MOVED TOO FAR, BUT SINCE CURRENTLY IT'S GONE ON THE HIGH SEAS, IT'S BEYOND THE JAPANESE JURISDICTION. NOW WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT AWAIT BRIBUGO'S COOPERATION ON THE INVESTIGATION.

MAYBE  
TEN  
DAYS

HAH?

CARGO SHIPS' INTERIORS ARE NOT DESIGNED TO HAVE SPACES FOR ACCOMMODATING PEOPLE. INSIDE THE HOT AND HUMID CONTAINER, THAT AMOUNT OF BOTTLED WATER AND FOOD WON'T LAST ANYONE EVEN TWO WEEKS...

It's  
almost  
as if,

AT THIS  
RATE...

He was  
closed  
there  
himself

NAKI-  
SA...





AND HERE,  
IN THE BACK  
STANDS...



HERE IN THE  
FOREFRONT,  
OFFERING FLOWERS  
IS THE CHIEF OF  
MIDDLE-EAST AFRICA  
BUREAU AT THE TIME,  
CURRENTLY THE  
MINISTER SENDOU OF  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

THAT'S RIGHT!  
IT'S FROM 20 YEARS  
AGO AND SHE'S  
MARRIED NOW SO  
THE SURNAME IS  
DIFFERENT,  
BUT...



**YOSHIDA  
SANAÉ!**

'Your  
daughter  
is not  
coming  
back ever  
again!'

Tell this  
to the  
minister!



SO SHE WAS  
THE RESERVED  
FAMILY  
FROM 'THAT  
ACCIDENT'?





First  
of all  
I...

Not to mention,  
to get to Kineya  
you have to  
enter with the  
north entrance.  
It's damn far!

Even  
though I  
put it in  
your mind...

or my car  
hitting in  
the middle  
of here, set  
you off?

Because I don't  
know about that  
at all, he must  
have thought  
"Oh, he's  
figuring how  
going to go and  
get mad."

I still don't  
understand  
Mao-san's moods  
changing on  
a whim like the  
weather on a  
snowy mountain.

AOKI-  
KUN!

...KUN

**I HATE THEIR  
PORK CUTLETS  
ANYWAY!**

I..

AOKI-  
KUN!

AH!

**A!**

PORK  
CUTLETS?





WILL  
NOT BE  
SLEEPING  
BUT THAT  
TODAY?

TSUYOSHI-KUN  
PASSED ME  
WITH HIS FACE  
ALL FROWNING  
EARLIER TOO.



HE PROBABLY  
DIDN'T SEE ME  
FROM OVER  
THERE THOUGH.

YEAH,  
ABOUT  
TEN  
MINUTES  
AGO.

....AKIO-  
SAN WAS  
HERE.....?





He can be so  
considerate  
to others  
like this.

Sometimes,



.....

WHAT,  
DID YOU  
MAKE SOME  
HORRIBLE  
MISTAKE  
AGAIN?

AOKI-KUN?  
WHAT IS IT?  
YOU'RE ALL  
RED!



OH,  
SORRY  
...

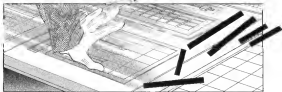
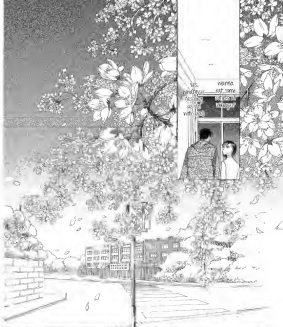
IT'S JUST  
THAT YOU  
TEND TO  
OFTEN FEEL  
DOWN FOR  
SUCH REA-  
SONS...

...  
DOCTOR  
...











**THIS IS  
THE ONLY  
PICTURE  
OF SAKI  
YOU HAVE!**



**YOU HAVE IMAGES  
FROM WHEN SHE  
WAS ABDUCTED AT  
THE END OF MARCH.  
WHY DON'T YOU  
QUICKLY SEARCH  
FURTHER FROM  
THAT?**

**WHAT IS  
THIS JOKE.  
HOW CAN  
YOU TELL A  
THING FROM  
THIS BLURRY  
PHOTO?**

**MINSTER,**





HAD OUR CHARGE  
DONE SOMETHING  
RUDY?



BUT I'LL  
HAVE YOU LET  
GO OF HIM,  
MINISTER SENDOU.



AS THE PERSON  
IN CHARGE I WILL  
ADDRESS ALL YOUR  
POSSIBLE DOUBTS.







BEYOND MY  
IMAGINATION.



is he  
taking a  
nap?

GEE-ON

GEE

...!!



BY ALL MEANS IT  
SAVES US TIME AND  
LABOR TO HEAR ALL  
THAT WE COULD  
ASK IN THE POLICE  
INTERVIEW DIRECTLY  
FROM YOU,  
MINISTER.

I EXTEND  
TO YOU OUR  
FEELINGS OF  
GRATITUDE.

YOU  
DAMNED  
BASTARD,  
WHO  
DO YOU  
THINK  
YOU'RE  
TALKING  
TO?







FIRST I'D  
LIKE TO PRESENT  
THIS PICTURE TO  
YOU.

THEN AS  
YOU'RE  
STANDING,



HERE IS  
YOSHIDA KAME,  
THE SUSPECT  
WHO RECENTLY  
COMMITTED  
SUICIDE.



IT'S  
IMPOSSIBLE...



YOU'RE  
PROBABLY  
ALREADY  
AWARE WHAT  
PICTURE IT IS,  
AREN'T YOU?



IT IS THAT VERY  
'IMPOSSIBLE'.  
YOSHIDA WAS THE  
BRAVEST FAMILY OF  
THE 'DELNA MASS  
ABDUCTION' VICTIM.

DUE TO THE POLITICAL  
INSTABILITY IN THE COUNTRY  
MANY DIED OF STAR-  
VATION AS WELL AS OF  
RAPIDLY SPREADING DISEASES.  
THERE WERE A LOT OF  
JAPANESE VOLUNTEERS  
WHO WENT TO HELP IN  
FIGHT THE CRISIS.



THE  
'DELNA MASS  
ABDUCTION  
CASE'.



GROUPS OF 10  
OF THEM WERE  
SUBSEQUENTLY  
DISCOVERED.



PLAYING THE CENTRAL ROLES,  
WERE THE 22 JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVES  
FROM THE INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL  
RELIEF TEAM. ON JULY 2042 THEY  
WERE ABDUCTED BY AN  
UNKNOWN PARTY.

AND THE COMPLAINTS OF THEIR FAMILIES WHO BELIEVED IN THEIR SURVIVAL WERE PROMPTLY DISMISSED.

THE CRIME WAS BLAMED ON THE ANTI-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION IN ORDER TO BRING THE INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION TO THE REGIME'S SIDE, AND THE VOICES THAT IT WASN'T A STATE CRIME STRENGTHENED.

IN 2048, THE CASE WAS AS A MATTER OF FACT CLOSED, AND IN THE FOLLOWING YEAR JAPAN RESUMED SENDING VOLUNTEER HELP TO THE COUNTRY. ALL THE WHILE...

WITH NO CORPSES AND NO EVIDENCE, THE REMAINING 12 PEOPLE WERE DECLARED DEAD,



She's still  
alive!

**YOU WERE THE  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
IN CHARGE OF  
SPEAKING FOR THE  
VICTIMS' FAMILIES!**

**YOU WERE  
THE CHIEF OF  
MIDDLE-EAST  
AFRICA  
BUREAU!**

She left  
at the  
request  
from the  
government, so  
she was  
not  
involved.

**'A  
DECISION  
THAT PUT  
DIPLOMATIC  
RELATIONS  
AND PUBLIC  
OPINION  
BEFORE THE  
LIVES OF 12  
PEOPLE'**

Chief

Don't  
stammer  
for, Chief!

Am I to  
make a  
fugue only  
for her lost  
belongings?

She's still alive! Why  
are you ignoring the  
signed testimony from  
the witnesses? Please  
continue the  
investigation!

**AS THE COUNTRY WE DID  
EVERYTHING WE COULD! I  
MYSELF STOOD IN THEIR  
PLACE WITH ALL MY HEART!**

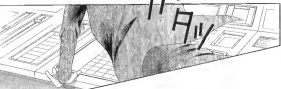
**GROUND-  
LESS  
SLANDER  
!**

**THAT'S HOW  
THE MEDIA  
PRESENTED IT  
AT THE TIME.**

**I DARE SAY THEY DIDN'T THINK  
THE SAME.**



カッ  
タッ





MAKI-SAN!













WE SUSPECT THAT  
THE ACCOMPLICE IS  
ALSO AMONG THE  
BEREAVED FAMILIES  
FROM THAT CASE.



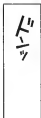
THE  
DIPLOMATIC  
RELATIONS  
GETTING IN  
THE WAY OF  
PROTECTING  
YOUR DAU-  
GHTER'S LIFE,  
AS WELL AS THE  
BARRIERS OF  
THE LAW.



WHAT  
GOES  
AROUND  
COMES  
AROUND.



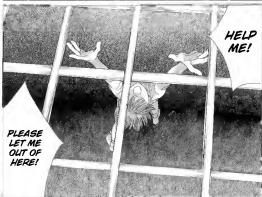
THIS  
TIME.



FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS  
MINISTER  
?

WHICH  
ARE YOU  
GOING TO  
PRIORITYZE?







WATER!

THE WATER...



SOME



AHH



WHY ?

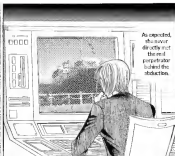
WHY ME...?

MOMMY...  
DADDY...

AA  
...









...DELIBERATELY  
TO SHOW  
HER OFF



HUHP

THEY  
HAD A  
FAKE...



SHE  
COM-  
MITTED  
SUICIDE...

...IN ORDER TO LURE  
US WITH THE FALSE  
INFORMATION FROM  
THE MRI.

IT'S POSSIBLE  
THAT SHE WAS  
A FAKE...?



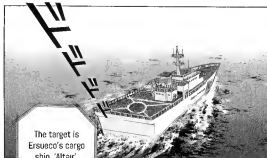
WITH  
THAT  
FIRST





THAT  
VERY  
FIRST  
IMAGE.





The target is  
Ersueco's cargo  
ship, 'Altair'.



Your order is  
to pursue  
'Altair', close  
in on it and  
make it halt.

It is currently  
moving South  
into the  
Southern  
China Sea.



MINISTER!

**DAD,  
HELP  
ME!**

BUT IF IT WASN'T  
THE DAUGHTER OF  
"THE FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS MINISTER"  
THAT WAS ABDUCTED  
BUT ANY OTHER GIRL,  
WOULD IT BE WRONG  
TO USE MY POWER TO  
RESCUE HER?

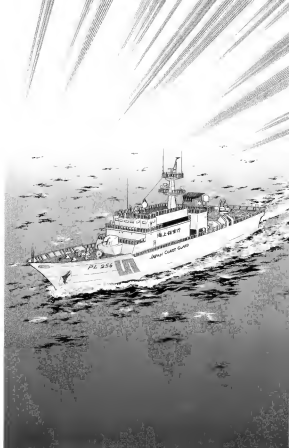
THIS DECISION IS  
BOUND TO AFFECT  
YOUR POLITICAL CAREER...  
EVEN IF THE RESCUE PROVES  
SUCCESSFUL, YOUR ACTIONS  
WILL SURELY BE CRITICIZED AS  
INTERMIXING PRIVATE  
INTEREST WITH THE  
PUBLIC POLICY!

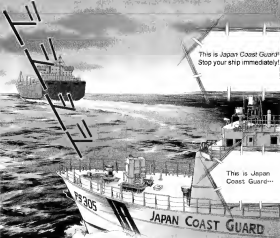
PLEASE,  
TAKE  
TIME TO  
RECON-  
SIDER  
THIS...

**HELP!**

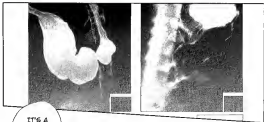
**HELP  
ME!**

I'M  
AWARE  
THAT IT'S  
A BREACH  
OF THE  
PUBLIC POLICY.









IT'S A  
LAST STAGE  
SCIRRHOUS  
CANCER.

One Year Ago    March 2081





THEN  
ISSUE A  
WARNING  
SHOT.



YES.  
CURRENTLY IT IS  
FOLLOWED IN A POINT  
BLANK RANGE BY  
THREE OF OUR  
VESSELS WHO ARE  
STILL DRAWING  
NEARER, BUT ALTAIR  
HAS IGNORED THE  
ORDER AND IS  
CONTINUING ITS  
ESCAPE.



IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN  
EXCUSABLE WITHIN  
THE JAPANESE  
WATERS TERRITORY,  
BUT ON AN OPEN SEA,  
WHEN JAPAN COAST  
GUARD DIDN'T RECEIVE A  
CALL FOR AID NOR WAS  
ATTACKED THIS KIND OF  
ACTION WOULD BE...



IT'S BECAUSE  
ESCAPING HAS  
CRIMINAL INTENT!  
STOP THE SHIP,  
EVEN FORCEFULLY,  
AND PROCEED WITH  
AN ON-BOARD  
INVESTIGATION!



THAT  
WOULD BE  
UNPRE-  
CEDENTED!

WHY...



WHY...



.....

**NOW!**

**WHY DOES THE  
COAST GUARD  
EXIST? IT'S TO  
INVESTIGATE THE  
CRIMES COMMITTED  
ON THE SEA AND  
SAVE PEOPLE'S  
LIVES, IS IT NOT?**

Whatever  
the price...

**NO  
MATTER  
WHAT, I  
HAVE TO  
SAVE  
HER...!**

Saki

Dad!

**IF THE  
CHIEF IS  
HESITATING,  
TELL HIM  
I'LL TAKE  
FULL  
RESPON-  
SIBILITY!**

It  
doesn't  
matter...







IT'S A BIT  
BLURRED,  
BUT WE CAN  
TELL THAT THE  
PIERCING HOLE  
IS THERE.

ON THIS  
PICTURE, WE  
ENLARGED  
THE AREA  
AROUND  
THE EAR.



科学警察研究所  
法医学部 法医学研究室

THE TOKYO POLICE RESEARCH CENTER  
THE MICH LABORATORY OF LEGAL MEDICINE



HOW  
IS IT?



NO...

DO YOU  
RECALL YOUR  
DAUGHTER HAVING  
A PIERCING IN  
HER EAR?



ARE YOU  
CERTAIN  
MADAM?  
THE MINISTER  
SAID...

HEN...

CERTAINLY THE SCHOOL  
UNIFORM IS THE SAME,  
AND THE HAIRSTYLE IS  
SIMILAR TO SAKI'S AS  
WELL, BUT IT'S NOT HER.  
SAKI DIDN'T HAVE  
HER EAR PIERCED,

THIS IS SOME  
OTHER PERSON.



PLEASE  
LOOK CLOSELY  
MADAM,  
DO YOU  
RECOGNIZE  
THIS GIRL?

NO,  
IT'S THE  
FIRST TIME  
I SEE THIS  
PERSON.

...MY  
HUSBAND  
ONLY SEES  
SAKI FEW  
TIMES A  
MONTH, HE  
WOULDN'T  
KNOW AS  
MUCH AS I  
DO...

THEY  
ARE  
COMPLETELY  
DIFFER-  
ENT  
GIRLS.





**IT'S  
NOT SAKI,  
I HAVEN'T  
SEEN THIS  
GIRL  
BEFORE!**



**It  
wasn't  
Sendou  
Saki!**

**We  
were  
wrong!**



How many girls were kidnapped for this plan?

Who is the girl on the snip, used as a body double?

The person taken away in the container wasn't minister Sendou's daughter.

And most importantly,

What was the objective behind creating this elaborate setup?  
Just how far is it planned?  
Was showing the piercing hole the perpetrators' mistake?  
Or was it intentional?

Then...

What about Sendou Saki?

Who is this...?



Where the hell is the real Sendou Saki?

GO FURTHER INTO KOSHIGA SAKI'S LONG TERM MEMORIES... RESEARCH IT UNTIL HALF...NO!... ONE YEAR AGO.

IT'S UNLIKELY THAT THE MAIN CULPRIT WOULD COMMIT SUICIDE WITHOUT SEEING THE FINAL RESULT OF THEIR THOROUGHLY PLANNED SCHEME...

SHE'S PROBABLY MET THE ACCOMPLICE DIRECTLY... AND THEY MIGHT BE THE PRINCIPAL OFFENDER.

AND ALSO,

ALRIGHT. IT'LL BE ASSIGNED TO ALL INVESTIGATORS.

SAKI-  
SAKI,

LIST UP ALL THE GIRLS BETWEEN THE AGES 12-20 YEARS OLD WHO DISAPPEARED SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR.

SAKI-  
GA...

OKA-  
BE.





**OKABE!**





...  
POSSIBLY TWO.

A  
YEAR...







I don't really understand it, did I get on Ma-kun's bad side again somehow?



Ma-kun, can it be that I'm a little bit of a bad boy?



As expected, someone that even Qian-qian can't break through.



THE SUSPECT.



YOSHIDA SAKAE  
HAD SACRIFICED  
HER LIFE ONLY  
IN ORDER TO  
PRESENT US WITH  
INFORMATION TO  
DERAIL THE MRI  
INVESTIGATION.



THE  
NINTH  
...

Tell the  
Minister -  
"Your  
daughter is  
not coming  
back ever  
again!"



Tell him that  
she's not  
coming back!

MRI,

IT'S  
INEVITABLE  
FOR HUMAN  
LIFE AND FOR  
MRI TO BE  
USED FOR A  
PURPOSE  
LIKE THIS.



MRI,



EVER.



SHOULD  
NOT BE  
USED LIKE  
THIS.

"MRI would  
steep to become a  
weapon  
more  
terrifying  
than any  
other."

Were  
it  
used  
that  
way,

And never  
any other  
way, that is  
by stealing a  
life in order  
to obtain  
information  
or to show  
something.

"MRI is to be  
used only  
in order to  
investigate  
the cause of  
death of the  
crime's  
victim or  
perpetrator,







IMPOSSIBLE...  
JAPANESE  
BOAT  
WENT  
ONTO THE  
OPEN  
SEA?

THEIR PATROL  
BOAT IS PURSUING  
THE CONTAINER  
SHIP IN ORDER TO  
PROCEED WITH  
ON-BOARD  
INVESTIGATION..?

WE  
RENT  
THEY  
NEGOTIATING ?

IT SEEMS THAT  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
MINISTER GOT  
TIRED OF WAITING  
AND ORDERED  
THEM DIRECTLY.

JUST  
NOW WE  
CONTACTED  
THE JAPAN  
COAST  
GUARD,  
AND THIS...

HE MUST STILL BE  
THINKING IT'S HIS  
DAUGHTER ON  
THE CARGO SHIP,  
AND HE'S TAKING  
SUCH A FORCEFUL  
ACTION WITHOUT  
KNOWING ABOUT  
THE 'BODY  
DOUBLE' GIRL...

MINISTER SENDOU  
SHOULD BE  
RECEIVING THE  
REPORT ABOUT  
THE MISTAKEN  
GIRL ABOUT NOW,  
BUT...

THAT'S  
NOT THE  
PROBLEM  
HERE!

IF IT'S  
SENDOU  
SAYS ON  
OTHER  
SIDE IS...

EVEN IF THEY  
SAFELY MANAGE  
TO RESCUE HER,  
AFTER THAT, WHEN  
THE MINISTER  
REALIZES IT WAS A  
DIFFERENT GIRL...

Which are  
you going to  
prioritize?

The diplomatic  
relations in  
the way of  
protecting your  
daughter's life,  
as well as  
the barrier  
of the law.

HAVING THE  
BRISBROOKS NATION-  
ALITY, THERE'S A  
SUSPICION THAT  
ALTHOUGH A PART OF  
THEIR NUCLEAR  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
AND ALTHOUGH IT'S  
UNCONFIRMED,  
JAPAN'S DIPLOMACY  
WAS VERY TIGHT  
ABOUT IT...

WHAT IF THIS  
BECOMES A  
CATALYST, AND WE  
AND THE BRISBROOK  
AND JAPAN GETS  
UNDER NUCLEAR  
ATTACK?

YOU CAN'T SAY IT'S  
COMPLETELY UNPLAUSIBLE?  
SAYS-SAN? IF YOU GET  
WHAT I SAY, ESPECIALLY  
SINCE THEY ALREADY  
FOLLOWED THE ORDER TO  
STOP THE SHIP.

MARU-  
SAN!

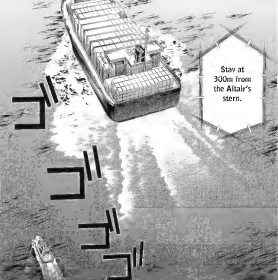
Minister  
Sendou?

The  
time

...NO  
WAY...  
IT  
WOULDN'T  
GET THAT  
FAR...

Starboard,  
10°!!

PLEASE  
CONTACT  
MINISTER  
SENDOU  
AGAIN!



Stay at  
300m from  
the Altair's  
stern.



This is  
'Yakushima',  
to Japan Coast  
Guard Special  
Rescue  
Headquarters,



Requesting  
permit to  
issue a  
warning  
shot!



Requesting  
permit to  
issue a  
warning  
shot!

**MINISTER  
SENDOU!!**



I STOPPED HIM, BUT HE SAID HE HAD TO SPEAK TO YOU IMMEDIATELY ABOUT YOUR DAUGHTER'S CASE...

ファン!



BUT THIS TIME AT LEAST,



WHEN MAKING POLITICAL DECISIONS YOU ALWAYS SHUT OUT ALL CONTACT FROM FAMILY AND HEADQUARTERS TO AVOID THEM SHAKING UP YOUR WILL.



# Isionka Scans

Translation&Typesetting: Isla  
Proofreading: Margot

Visit  
[ninthis.secretary.tumblr.com](http://ninthis.secretary.tumblr.com)  
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